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Martha D. Sloan
(signature)

Date of signature: January 2, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
David H. Palmer)	Group Art Unit:
)	
Serial No. 10/666,173)	
)	Examiner:
Filed: September 19, 2003)	
)	
For: ELONGATE RECEIVER TUBE AND)	Attorney Docket: 1-37091
METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME)	
)	

January 2, 2004

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL REMARKS

IN SUPPORT OF PREVIOUSLY FILED INVENTOR'S DECLARATION

Honorable Sir:

Please supplement the above-identified application as indicated on the following
pages.

Respectfully submitted,

James D. Miller
James D. Miller
Reg. No. 46,932

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REMARKS

The following remarks are filed in support of a Declaration of Inventor filed on November 14, 2003. Although it may be obvious to the Examiner, the testing report filed with the Declaration of Inventor provided surprising results. The testing report presented comparative testing results between the applicant's structure using cold forging (Jems), a welded collar structure, and a hot forged structure. During testing, both the welded collar structure and the hot forged structure had cracks form therein. The cracks affect the integrity of the structures in a variety of ways. Such cracks in a receiver tube reduces the overall strength of the structure and further allows moisture to penetrate and facilitates the formation of corrosion resulting in a further reduction of the strength and integrity of the structure.

Manifestly, the occurrence of cracks in the structure compromise the overall strength and integrity and the ultimate safety of the structure. Due to the substantial loads imposed on a receiver tube, the reduction in strength and integrity presents a serious safety concern. Failure of a receiver tube in use will result in a disconnection of the towed vehicle allowing uncontrolled travel of the towed vehicle resulting in potential loss of life and substantial damage to property.

While the above comments may be clearly apparent to the Examiner, in view of the tremendous importance of this matter from the point of view of safety, it was deemed appropriate to highlight the phenomenal results achievable by applicant's invention.

The applicant's structure did not exhibit any cracks or other failures as a result of the testing conducted. Thus, the receiver tube produced using the applicant's method maximizes the strength, integrity, and durability of the structure. As a result, the safety of the structure is maximized as well. Additionally, due to applicant's method of production, production costs are minimized. Due to the surprising results, and the low cost of production, applicant's receiver tube has experienced commercial success and demand for the product is high, while simultaneously reducing the production costs.

Should the Examiner feel it desirable to further explore the information discussed above or included in the Declaration of Inventor, Applicant requests that an interview be arranged with the Examiner in an effort to expedite the prosecution of the application. Should the Examiner consider that the applicant's presence would be desirable, this can be arranged.